



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

JOHN F. PEYTON, JR., DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 587-1350
Fax: (808) 587-1282

For Immediate Release: February 13, 2004

DEPUTY SHERIFFS ARREST 10 VICTORY OHANA RESIDENTS

HONOLULU—Deputy sheriffs from the Department of Public Safety today arrested 10 residents at Victory Ohana, a halfway house located in Waipahu. The arrests were the result of a joint operation by the Sheriff Division, Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) and the Attorney General's Office.

HPA had received credible information that a few parolees were using illegal drugs and allegedly bringing drugs on to the premises, according to HPA Administrator Tommy Johnson. At the request of HPA, deputy sheriffs provided law enforcement support to parole officers who were conducting on-site drug and alcohol testing of parolees.

Public Safety Director John Peyton noted the operation was carried out "with the consent of the Victory Ohana program director and was done in the best interests of public safety."

At approximately 5:40 a.m. this morning, deputy sheriffs, investigators from the Attorney General's Office and parole officers commenced with "no notice" drug and alcohol testing. As a result, six parolees were arrested for testing positive for drugs. The remaining four were arrested for self-admitted drug use, not providing a timely urine sample or violating parole terms and conditions. All 10 were returned to custody. Canine Unit deputies also found drug paraphernalia in two rooms.

HPA has 48 parolees living at Victory Ohana, which provides a supportive living environment and has a capacity of 150 beds. The remaining residents are comprised of probationers and others from the community.

For more information, contact:

John F. Souza III
Sheriff Division Administrator
Phone: (808) 587-1338

Tommy Johnson
Hawaii Paroling Authority Administrator
Phone: (808) 587-5604